

DRAFT
ORR/MRA
13 April 1967

TAB A

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[redacted]
Deputy Assistant Director
for Intelligence
Defense Intelligence Agency
Washington, D. C. 20301

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Dear [redacted]

I have received your letter of 30 March and I am pleased that you also feel that the recent costing of Soviet land forces conducted jointly by our agencies was a successful endeavor. I share your concern for the need to reexamine previous assessments of Warsaw Pact capabilities not only with respect to the 1965 CIA/DIA Panel study, which is now somewhat dated, but also as contained in more recent issuances.

I believe your suggestion for additional joint effort is sound in principle and that we should explore thoroughly the areas in which joint analysis might prove beneficial. My staff has been assessing various aspects of the problem to identify the areas most susceptible to major substantive improvements on the basis of current source materials. We consider the problem of Soviet equipment levels which you have posed to be one of several prime candidates for further concentrated study.

The research group within CIA primarily responsible for intelligence on the Soviet Bloc ground forces is headed by Mr.

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[redacted] As a first step I have asked [redacted]

to meet

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DIA review(s) completed.

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with your action officer, [] to discuss our respective research objectives and to explore the possible areas of mutual support. CIA has several studies in process which are intended to support the next Soviet general purpose forces estimate, NIE 11-14-67. In view of the difficult substantive questions to be evaluated and the imminence of contributions to the estimate I believe that presently scheduled research should not be interrupted or redirected at this time toward the production of a joint report. However, in addition to the closer coordination suggested above, I would consider it desirable during this period for [] to examine the feasibility of specific joint analyses to follow NIE 11-14, perhaps, as you suggest, in support of the 1968 NIPP.

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R. J. SMITH
Deputy Director for Intelligence

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DEFENSE INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20301

80 MAR 1967

S-0068/AP-3Y

Dr. R. J. Smith
Deputy Director for Intelligence
Central Intelligence Agency
Washington, D.C. 20505

Dear Dr. Smith:

(C) The recent joint analysis which our two agencies performed on the problem of costing Soviet land forces was such a successful endeavor that it leads me to propose that we conduct a similar effort on the knotty problem of inventories of land armaments.

(S) The CIA/DIA Panel for a Special Study of the Soviet Ground Forces produced an "assessment of evidence on land equipment" in 1965. Much evidence has been acquired since then, however, and it now appears that our judgments made at that time should be reexamined. This is particularly true in view of continuing O&D, JCB, and ONE requirements for evaluations of Warsaw Pact capabilities, quantities of equipment in active units, and the availability of equipment for mobilization.

(S) In order to obtain a comprehensive picture of the land armaments problem, the analysis should cover all active Warsaw Pact countries and should examine the following major questions:

- a. Availability of equipment in active units to include types, quantities, and rate and pattern of delivery.
- b. Equipment held in storage for outfitting newly mobilized forces or for replacing losses.
- c. Production of land armaments.
- d. Exports of equipment to other countries.

(C) It would be desirable to produce at least a preliminary report in time for NIE 11-14-67 and a further or final report in time for the 1968 NIPP.

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(U) I have designated [redacted] as DIA action officer for coordination of this project. If you consider a joint effort feasible, I would appreciate the name of a corresponding point of contact within your organization.

Sincerely,

John A. Smith
Lieutenant Colonel, USA
Primary Assistant Operator for
Intelligence Production

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